

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated June 2, 2005. As this paper is filed on August 29, 2005 (with a Request for Continued Examination), this paper is timely filed.

I. Status of Amendments

Claims 1-12 were pending prior to this amendment. Claims 1, 4-8, and 10 have been amended, and claims 2 and 3 have been canceled without prejudice to refile. Thus, claims 1 and 4-12 are presently pending.

Because applicants originally paid for 3 independent claims and 20 total claims, no additional fee is due because of the 1 independent claim added by this amendment.

II. Response to the June 2 Office Action

Claims 1, 2, and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Jong et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,737,892). Claims 1-7 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Hattori (U.S. Patent No. 6,791,369). Claims 8 and 9 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten.

By this amendment, applicants rewrite claim 8 to include the limitations of base claim 2 and intervening claim 3. Consequently, applicants submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Moreover, because amended claims 4-7 and claim 9 depend from claim 8 and because claim 8 is in condition for allowance, so too are claims 4-7 and 9. Consequently, claims 4-9 should now be in condition for allowance.

However, applicants also present herewith claims 1 and 10-12, with claims 1 and 10 amended to address the comments bridging pages 6 and 7 of the Office Action. Specifically, it was suggested that certain limitations of the claimed subject matter need not be met by the references because of applicants' use of "or" in the claims. June 2 Office Action, at 7 ("[I]t should be noted that in view of the term "or" recited in the Applicant's claims are not seen to require that the circuit met [sic, meet] all the condition [sic, conditions] recited in the

independent claims 1, 2, and 10.”). It is submitted that the amendments to claims 1 and 10 should obviate this concern.

Specifically, claim 1 recites, in pertinent part, that the detection facility has a first state, if a differential clock pulse is present at the first and second connections, in which a first output signal is provided, and a second state, if a single clock pulse is present at the first connection, in which a second output signal different than the first output signal is provided. Applicants submit that this language actually does not differ in intent from that originally presented: the detection facility has the capability to determine a single signal from a differential signal. Thus, applicants renew their argument that such detection facility is not found in either Jong et al. or Hattori. Specifically, reliance on the circuits of Jong et al. or Hattori, which reliance is based on alleged disclosure of determination or detection of only one of the two signals (single or differential), can no longer be maintained.

Similarly, claim 10 recites, in pertinent part, that the detection facility has a first state, if differential clock pulses are present at the connections, in which a first output signal is provided, and a second state, if a single clock pulse is present at the first connection, in which a second output signal different than the first output signal is provided. Given the similarity of this language with the above-cited language from claim 1, the above-remarks made relative to claim 1 apply with equal force to claim 10. Consequently, the rejection of this claim should also be withdrawn.

Application No. 10/668,683
Amendment dated August 29, 2005
Response to Office Action of June 2, 2005

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims the above application are in condition for allowance, and reconsideration is respectfully requested. If there is any matter that the Examiner would like to discuss, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 30169/30001. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: August 29, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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